



**Department of Energy Environmental Management Consolidated Business Center
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For Immediate Release

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**DOE Seeks Contractor Proposals for Environmental Impact Statement
For Santa Susana Field Laboratory Area IV Cleanup**

Canoga Park, CA -- The DOE Office of Environmental Management announced today its intent to seek contractor proposals for a contract to perform an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the remediation of the 290-acre Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) Area IV. The Department is seeking proposals using the Request for Task Proposal (RTP) process. Proposals from interested contractors will be due to the Department by October 10, 2007, with a projected award date of November 10, 2007.

DOE performed research work on 90 acres at the former Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC) within SSFL Area IV. The former Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) built a small nuclear power plant to deliver energy to the commercial grid at the lab and performed research that included nuclear powered space vehicles and sodium coolant mediums at 10 small reactors. All ETEC nuclear research work was completed in 1988.

The 2,850-acre SSFL is owned by the Boeing Company and small portions by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, it is located in the hills between Chatsworth and Simi Valley, CA. SSFL was developed as a remote site to test rocket engines and conduct nuclear research

The U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, ordered DOE to conduct an EIS in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act in early May 2007.

An EIS is a document required of federal agencies by the National Environmental Policy Act for major projects or legislative proposals that significantly affect the environment. A decision making tool, an EIS is used to examine beneficial and adverse impacts of the proposed action and alternatives.

On May 24, 2007, DOE ordered its contractor to suspend work at the SSFL Area IV ETEC, stopping decontamination and decommissioning work and placing the site in a safe and stable configuration with only monitoring and surveillance and maintenance work ongoing.

The Department will continue to move forward with the utmost protection of human health and the environment and comply with the court order, State and Federal regulations while working cooperatively with the State of California, Environmental Protection Agency, elected officials and stakeholders throughout the EIS process.

Additional information on ETEC is available at: <http://apps.em.doe.gov/etec/>

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